# THE STATE CAPITAL.

Fierce Fight Over the Charter in the Assembly.

The Minority Opening Fire All Along the Line.

Failure of the Attempt to Retain the Board of Assistant Aldermen.

A Savage Charge Upon the Republican Leaders.

The Majority are Firm, Unyielding and Uncompromising.

The Appointing Power Question the Object of Attack.

#### THE BATTLE TO BE RENEWED TO-DAY.

The charter was the great sensation of the day at the Capitol to-day, and long before the Assembly every part. That portion of the Chamber reserved for ladies and the gentlemen who accompany them was also filled to repletion. It became evident shortly after Mr. Moore, of St. Lawrence, had been called to the chair in the Committee of the Whole, and a vote had oeen taken upon several amendments offered, that the majority had been mutiny in the camp from any quarter. The minority at the start went into the fight head first, with visor down, hoping by boldness to secure some concessions of value, but they were so little interfered with in their harangues and so toolly voted down every time their amendwere put to a vote that they began to lose vim before the fourth section was reached. and afterwards fought apparently more for the than because they had any hope of obtaining any result for their pains other than that which the majority, as republicans, felt inclined to grant them. Mr Charles G Cornell was the first democrat to offer an amendment, which was to retain

he, to secure that end, offering a substitute for the second section. Mr. Peter Wood, in a few re-Loard fourteen Assembly districts in the city would be left unrepresented, but after making this grounds he had for making it other than that, if there were only one Board to be elected on a general ticket they would simply represent the city as the Mayor does; in other words, that there would be no local representation. Mr. Pierson abolishment of the Board would be hailed with light by every good citizen who had the welfare of the city at heart. Mr. Cornell insisted that the existence of the Board was almost a necessity to he good government of the city. It would always be found to be a good check upon the other Board on every occasion when danger to the interests of Board of Aldermen. It was nearer the people than the other Board, and, as at present constituted, represented the same constituency as the twenty-one Assemblymen. Mr. Norton differed from Mr. Cornell, and claimed that the abolishment of the Board, in his opinion, was one of the very best features in the bill. He had always found the

A GREAT EXPENSE TO THE CITY, for which it gave no adequate return. He was strongly in favor of the section as it stood, and as s New Yorker, who knew of what he affirmed, he asserted that one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred upon the people of the city would be to abolish the Assistant Aidermen. Mi Blumenthal was opposed to the section. He con tended that the Committee of Seventy had last year advised the wiping out of Board, but that they had done so to attain an end which could not be attained by the present bill. In argning for its abolishment the committee had in view the certain representation in the Board of Aldermen of the minority, which was to be secured by the adoption of the cumulative voting principle, but they had no idea of abolishing one Board and giving the other full swing, or electing them in such a way that the minority could not be always represented. Mr. Campbell said that there were districts in New

when the Donnegan charter?"

'"There was but one," replied Beebe.

'Ah!" exclaimed Husted, resuming his seat and hoking about him in a triumphant sort of way, as much as to say, "I guess I get him that time." But Beebe, turning toward him, sneeringly remarked:—

'That is but another proof of my argument. The city had but one beard, got sick of the system and gave it up."

gave it up."

There was a snicker all around at this, but when

city had but one beard, got sick of the system and gave it up."

There was a snicker all around at this, but when Beebe suddenly paused and again turning towards Husted with a meck gravity of manner that was irresistibly funny gravely, almost solemnly asked, "Will the gentleman be kind enough to ask me another question," there was A ROAR OF LAUGHTER on both sides of the House that even the chairman was unable to suppress. When Husted soon afterwards get up and declared rather dippantily teat there was too much "gas" blown off by the minority and toe much "wool pulled" be may have thought he showed a great deal of party devotion, as well as party wit; but if he did the galleries alone agreed with him. Mr. Weed in taking the floor alluded to the charges that had been made against the government of New York in past years. He admitted that bad men had dishonored the city in the past and cast a shadow apon our system of government that was only made darker and blacker by the crimes of bribe takers and perjurers in the national legislature. (Here the majority looked excessively plous, Alberger crossing his hands prayerfully and looking up intently at the ceiling, as if there was a plential supply of Mobilier stock among the frescoes.) He was not, Mr. Weed continued, a champion of obas government under-any party; but the majority, in insisting upon the abolishment of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, were really champiening a system of the majority of there being no minority representation. He believed in the equalization of the power of the majority of there being no minority representation. He believed in the equalization of the power of the majority of the being no minority in all departments of government, a just equilibrium rather than a supreme centrol. The fact was that the Legislature legislated too much for New York. It was plain that the proposition to abolish the second Board was a part and parcel of this too much legislation system; but he felt convinced that by its abolishment the people of the city would

shrewdness to back up their schemes might rule the city. In fact the entire Board of Aldermen, he said, might be, under the bill, selected from among the residents on one block of one street. Then he would ask what became of the benefit of the people? He did not pretend to say that an entire loard of Aldermen would, under the bill, were be chosen from one ward, but the measure admitted the feasibility of such a contingency. It was, he contended, a dangerous thing to give any one man or any set of men the power to rule absolutely for good or evil. A good instance of what he looked upon as a great danger was given at the last election in New York, when a man who was opposed by every bank and monetary interest, every institution that had the good order of the city at heart, was able to poil 40,000 votes for Mayor. Had there been four candidates in the field that man and his friends might to-day have the city under their supreme control. This was an instance of what THE FOWER OF ONE INDIVIDUAL COULD DO against large odds, and yet this bill, by depriving the city of a branch of its government which has always acted as a cheek upon another branch, would give this kind of power to a few men. The question at this point was put by the Chairman and was lost evidently by a strict party vote, although no count was taken. The third section of fifteen Aldermen on a general ticket. Mr. Crary offered an iamendment making the number twenty-one, one from each Assembly district, those elected to take office at moon on the 1st of January following the election and to hold office for two years. In advocating the amendment Mr. Crary said that several districts in New York having over one hundred thousand inhabitants are left totally without representation at present because of the election of the Board of Aldermen on a general ticket. Mr. Opdyke ontended that the section as it stood was an excellent one and should not be altered in any respect whitever. If the Aldermen were elected by districts the petty schemers, who, by ching rath

over this amendment, it being evident that the object sought to be attained by it could not be strained without and be attained by it could not be strained without and the strained by it could not be strained without and amendment making the election for city officers a legal boliday and fixing it for the second Tuesday in April of each year. Mr. Blumenthal warmly advocated the amendment, which was bitterly opposed by Mr. Clark. Mr. Blumenthal believed that the provision making the day a legal holiday made Mr. Husted's second objection to the amendment of no account. Mr. Weed contended that it was in the interest of the professional politicians to have the election in the Fall, and the greatast opposition to this feature was limited to by "outsiders," who were swarming about the Legislature. This assertion came very near knocking the breath out of little Davenport, who at the time was leaning against the swing doors that lead into the rooms in the rear of the Speaker's desk; but he recovered himself sufficiently after Weed had taken his seat to lean dignifiedly, but rather excared looking, against the wall. Hugh Gardner, too, tugged at his long beard nervously, and pretended to find a speck on that stiff shirt bosom which required all his ingenuity to remove. Mr. Herring followed Weed, and got his back up because the latter, as he thought, had thrown out an insinuation that the good man from Westchester had seven and the service of the second matters and things generally. He claimed that the eutsider was a stranger to him who had placed his arm on his shoulder while he was speaking to another party. Mr. Weed retorted by saying that he had thrown out no insinuation, but had stated a fact. This reply created quite a laugh at Mr. Herring's expense, who somehow couldn't for the life of himsee wher

would, despite themselves, be

COMPELLED TO SHOW THEIR HANDS.

The Speaker glanced nervously towards Pierson and Davenport, and hastily writing a lew words on a slip of paper gave it to a page, with instructions to hand it to "the gentleman with the white hair." Pierson got the slip, read it quickly and arose in his place, and addressing himself to Mr. Weed, rather falteringly attempted to explain how, if "the gentleman from Clinton" would only defer his amendment till the section relating to the appointing power was reached, it might "come in better." This opened Weed's eyes at once and he exclaimed:—"That's it, is it; if you intended to fix the appointing power in any other way than that mentioned in the bill why on earth "don't you have the bill printed right in the first place." He then resumed his seat, the minority chuckling in their sleeves at the hint that Pierson had been forced to give as to the "little joker" which is to be put in the bill in relation to the appointing power, while the leaders of the majority pretended to look totally unconcerned. But they were discontented for the time being, and did not relish the situation. Davenport seemed to take the whole thing as a big joke, however, and quietly remarked to a gentleman who sat close beside him, as Weed sat down, "He'll have a damned nice time getting in that amendment." And so he will.

ADJOCKNED.

The clock pointed to two clock at this stage of the proceedings, and the House adjourned.

At four o'clock, looking refreshed and goodnatured after a good dinner, the majority and minority went.

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ONCE MORE TO WORK.

The latter made an onslaught again on the third
section by endeavoring to do away with the
clause which classifies the terms of office.
This was voted down. They then tried
to have seven members go out every three
years instead of five and to increase the whole
number of the Board to twenty-one. This, too,
was lost, as was another to make the number
twenty-seven. By a vote of 40 to 42 another
amendment was lost fixing eight as the number
to constitute a quorum instead of a majority of the
Board. When the twenty-first section was reached
Mr. McGuire, of Schayler, sent up an amendment,
which provided that in case of a vacancy occurring
during the term of the Mayor

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
should act as Mayor until the "beginning of the
next political year," instead of allowing him to
stay in office for the full term for which the Mayor
was elected, as the section reads. Mr.
McGuire contended that the section as it
stood was, in his opinion, unconstitutional. This
amendment was lost by a vote of 27 yeas to 39 nays.
The twenty-fifth section, which relates to the appointing power, was reached at about four minutes
to six. It was read through by the Clerk and there
was at once a visible excitement all over the House,
the majority evidently feeling for the first time

A LITTLE UNEASY,
not, indeed, because of any fear on their part that
there would be a "break" in lines, but that they
knew that the minority would have too many
heavy oratorical guas for them during the debate,
and might seemingly to outsiders push them
to the wall, even though they themselves
would be in the end triumphant. Opdyke,

knew that the minority would have too many heavy oratorical guas for them during the debate, and might seemingly to outsiders push them to the wall, even though they themselves would be in the end triumphant. Opdyke, about whom there were many rumors during the day, appeared to be ill at ease, as Davenport, from his little nook to the left of the Speaker's chair, where he had ensconced himself early in the morning to watch every move on the floor of the House, and where he could quietly issue his orders to his friends, kept his eyes steadily upon him as if fearful lest he might not perform the task alietted to him. The Speaker, however, finding the hour fixed for the adjournment—six o'clock—so near at hand, took the chair and declared the House adjourned. So when the members got together again, at quarter-past seven, the majority knew just what they had to do, and

OPDYKE'S COURAGS.

fortified by a hearty supper, was not exactly at fever heat, for he knew that the change of front he had been induced to make would leave him open to demands for an explanation from the minority that would be anything but agreeable, and how could he offer the amendment, the general tenor of which every one knew before it was presented, in the face of his dissenting report, which in its every line bristled with arguments against putning anything in the bill that would strip the Mayor of his executive ability. When he took his seat the galleries were densely crowded, nearily all the Senators having come down stairs to listen to the debate. The House was finally called to order and Mr. Opdyke at once rose and offered his amendment, as follows:—

Section 22.—The heads of all departments and all com-

MR. OPDYRE'S SUBSTITUTE.

SECTION 23.—The heads of all departments and all commissioners shall be appointed, whether for a full term or to fill a vacancy, in the manner following:—At any time

after a period of thirty days prior to the expiration of the term of office of any such officer or at any time after the occurrence of a vacancy in any such office a majority in number of the members of the Board of Aldermen may, in writing, nominate to the Mayor a person to all such office. If the Mayor approve such nomination is not a such office. If the Mayor approve such nomination is not at the such office. If the Mayor approve such nomination shall have been sent to him or at the nomination shall have been sent to him or at the nomination shall have been sent to him or at the nomination, or if he shall not so communicate his disapproval. If the Mayor shall, in the come appointed. If the Mayor shall, in the manner aforesaid, communicate to the Board of Aldermen his disapproval of any such nomination, said Board shall, sire five days and within fifteen days from the receipt of such communication, proceed to reconsider and vote upon such nomination; and if the same shall then receive a majority of the votes of all the members of the Board the person so nominated shall thereupon become appointed. On such reconsideration the yeas and nays shall be recorded. If on any such reconsideration the yeas and nays shall be recorded. If on any such reconsidereation the same shall not receive a majority vote of the Board such nomination therefor in the same manner is a such person shall not again be nomination of any person shall not again be nomination and such person shall not again be nomination at the same office: but the Board shall proceed to make another more shall not be superimented the erection or repair of any building belonging to or to be paid for by the city, whether named in any law or appointed by any local authority, and also all members of any other local board and all other officers can now be elected by the people whose appointment is not herein other which provided the terms of office of the present incuments and large care of this act shall hold their offices until the list day of March in the year

At the close of the reading of the amendment Opdyke made a few remarks to show that it gave to the Mayor all the power his friends could wish for. Jacobs got the noor at once and read from

tion side of the House.

Blumenthal was the next one to take the foor, which he kept for over an hour, in slowly delivering a speech eulogistic of Mayor Havemeyer, and advocating an amendment as a substitute for Opdyke's, which he offered, giving the Mayor the sole power of appointment. "Professor" Clarke succeeded in getting recognized by the chairman when Blumenthal had read his last of a dozen newspaper extracts, and straightway began

began

A RAMBLING HARANGUM

about the Mayor's being afflicted with "partisan insanity," and telling how he had forgotten all about the great reform party which elected him. The Professor was very flerce, and beat the air with his hands at such a rate that he flually had to sit down through sheer exhaustion. It became noticeable during clark's spasms that the republican leaders had got their heads together in a corner of the room, and that there was, to use a democrat's way of putting it.

that there was, to use a democrat's way of puting it, "Something on their minds."

The corner talk was soon ended, however, and shertly after Judge Folger, of the Court of Appeals, with the "Red Book" in his hand, opened at the part headed "Constitution of the State of New York," was descried in grave consultation with Mr. Pierson. Indeed, the Judge remained by the latter's side during the entires debate which followed, apparently suggesting "points" and giving advice to be made good use of at the proper time. Jacobs got the nior after Clarke had reductantly sunk into his chair, and at once opened all his batteries on what he called the Custom House Ring. His speech was the speech of the evening, and not only created such an excitement as served to bring down the gods in the upper galleries and the spectators on the floor of the House into a round of applause, but it actually put the amiable Pierson in a rage. In fact.

JACOBS HAD A "DIO" POR SYREYBODY on the republican side, and made no bones about attacking his opponents openly as individuals. His thrusts at Husted for changing his policy of opposition, so openly expressed during the first week of January, "if he should be overlooked," to one of the utmost devotion to the very men whom he had then denounced, were cutting and even cruel. The speech dealt recklessly in personalities; but the chief point in it was his aimsion to the sections of the bill which give the Superintendent of Police "power that no freeman would submit to." Without naming him he dehounced.

"NEW SUPERINTENDENT" DAYENPORT in a way that made the little man, who at the time "SOMETHING ON THEIR MINDS."

"NEW SUPERINTENDENT" DAYENFORT in a way that made the little man, who at the time was scated on the steps of the Speaker's platform, turn pale and crouch out of sight behind the cierks, who were gathered together in front of the Reader's desk. Pierson made a savage reply to Jacobs. He was evidently "as mad as a March hare"; at the way Jacobs had alluded to him and hare" at the way Jacobs had alluded to him and the positive manner in which he had declared that THE RING IN THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN had already pledged themselves in writing to do the bidding of the Custom House and thwart every move of the Mayor that was not pleasing to the republican leaders. He denounced Jacobs as the leading spirit of the Brooklyn Ring, and said he, of all others, should be the last to speak of Mr. Opdyke doing the bidding of his masters, when he, toe, had, in the Young Democracy fight, failen into line in the end to do the bidding of Boss Tweed. This brought Jacobs to his feet with an angry denial that he had ever seceded from the ranks of the opponents of the Brooklyn or New York rings.

Tweed. This brought Jacobs to his feet with an angry denial that he had ever seceded from the rauks of the Opponents of the Brooklyn or New York rings.

The Fight between the two was venomously fierce, but Pierson finally became ampable and resumed his seat, after asserting that owing to men like Jacobs the democratic party was now disorganized and disnitegrated. General Smith Weed then took the floor and continued the fight as bitterly as Jacobs had opened it, and denounced the amendment of Mr. Opdyke as an infamy that would create a whirfwind of ladignation from one end of the State to the other among all classes, regardless of politics. It being at this point nearly eleven o'clock the Chairman rose, the bill was progressed and an adjournment was had until to-morrow, when its expected fight over the question of the appointing power will be renewed by the minority with tenfold more fierceness than ever.

Senator James Wood introduced a bill, which, it is understood, was prepared by Recorder Hackett, providing for motions in new trials or regarding writs of errors upon conviction is the Court of Oyer and Terminer of the First Judicial district, or of the Court of General Sessions of the Fedee in and for the city and county of New York, and te regulate in the Court of Appeals the procedure upon such writs of error.

The Lieutenant Governor this morning announced the following as the select committee to investigate the alleged Erie "corraption" cases:—Senators Woodin, Palmer, Foster, Harrower and Murphy. The iermation of the cemmittee was a surprise to everybody except the small clique that runs the Senate. Woodin was undoubtedly made chairman by the influence of that the unbiassed mind of the Lieutenant Governor alone could have compassed. There are only two regular republicans on it. Palmer, Harrower and Murphy are liberal or democratic, and Mr. Foster, the only actual republican associated on the committee was a surposition to the democration preponderance in its formation already frightens the republican cliq

er rectify the republican balance of power on the committee.

THE CASE OF TWEED.

Senator Lowery introduced a bill this morning to repeal the section of the Revised Statutes that permits a member of the Legislature to qualify at any time during the session. It is understood to be the first of a series of legislative shafts to be levelled at Tweed, in order to bring him down from his high place as a Senator by courtesy, entitled to his place, yet not liable to the pains and penalties of expusion. This bill will vacate Tweed's place or compel him to qualify, and thus put him within reach of those Senators who actually desire his expulsion, though it is not by any means to be understood that all the republican members of the Senate are anxious to bring him to bay.

A bill was introduced by Tiemann to incorporate THE LOTOS CLUB.

It names Whitelaw Reid, John Burghan, Thomas W. Knox, W. Appleton, Jr., C. F. Chickering, J. B. Houton, J. Henry Hager, Daniel Bixby, Charles R. Mujer, Charles Insice Pardee and Thomas E. Morris

and their associates incorporators. The petition accompanying the bill states under eath that the Club now possesses property in lurniture, books, pictures, Ac., to the amount of \$10,000.

THE TROY RENSELAER POLICE BILL was finally read through, and carried by a vote of 17 to 12.

The bill to increase

THE PAY OF PIREMEN
in New York city was discussed in Committee of the Whole.

### OCEAN STEERAGE ABUSES.

Encouraging Prospects of Needful Legislation Mr. J. P. McDonnell Persevering in the Good Work-Secretary Fish Alive to the Importance of Protecting the Immigrant.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-SIR-In my letters of January 27 and February 4 I declared my intention to prosecute an inquiry into the ocean steerage abuses and to leave no stone unturned to bring about the enactment of better emigration laws. I have so far succeeded in fulfilling my promise that public attention is now directed to the question and hundreds of persons throughout the country have written to me expressing their willingness to bear testimony to the treatment which they received on Atlantic ocean steamships. I may say that in no case has any person accused me of exaggeration, but many consider that I have not painted the picture of ocean steerage life in colors dark enough, and all urge upon me to push the matter forward fearlessly. I press must not remain in the background. The public man who will hold his tongue over this question or the paper which will suppress all referen to it cannot be faithful to the interests of the people. citizens of the Republic will not be unmindful of such gross neglect. The gratitude of every emigrant and every emigrant's descendant is due to the HERALD for the generous manner in which its columns have been thrown steerage question. I am only an individual and without your all-powerful aid, could have accomplished but little. The people must now, however, give practical assistance by bringing the question before their trade, political and social clubs, in every city and vihage throughout the Union. They must not content themselves with mere expressions of sympathy. They can do what will cost them just as little and accomplish a great deal more by agitating the question and forcing it upon the attention of the press and their Congressional representatives. I will do my part, but the public must perform theirs.

In accordance with my pledge I have directed the following letter to the Chairman of the Emigration Commissioners, but the public must clearly understand that the question cannot be settled by any committee of investigation and that it cannot be abandoned until it is taken up and satisfactorily actived by the governments of this country and Europe. I subjoin another letter which this morning I received from secretary Fish and I am pleased to find that its tone is very promising. I am just now collecting material which I shall use immediately after the investigation. In the meantime I shall be glad to hear from persons who feel a sincere interest in this question.

257 Bowery, New York.

LETTER TO RICHARD O'GORMAN.

To RICHARD O'GORMAN, Esq. Chairman Emigration Comwithout your all-powerful aid, could have accom

J. P. McDONNELL.

207 Bowery, New York.

LETTER TO RICHARD O'GORMAN.

TO RICHARD O'GORMAN, ESQ., Chairman Emigration Commissioners, Castle Garden, New York:

DEMAR SIB—I feel it my duty to draw your attention and that of the Commissioners of Emigration to letters of mine which appeared in the Naw York Herald of Monday, the 27th January, and Tuesday, the 4th of February, in which serious charges are preferred against the National Steamship Company, and a demand made for an amended emigration law. The serious importance of the question is made manifest by the mere fact that the Naw York Herald has already devoted over eight columns of its valuable space, independent of two leading articles, for the ventilation of the grievances complained of by me. I therefore request you to have an inquiry instituted, in order that a foul blot may be wiped away from the annals of our nineteenth century civilization. I am well aware of the difficulties under which I labor, but I have great faith in the power of truth. I know that I have one of mankind's greatest foes to combat-money-and that I have no weapon to vanquish it but the naked truth; but I have confidence enough in the latter to enter upon the contest. I wish to test the legality, so far as American laws are concerned, of certain treatment dealt out to steerage passengers on the Atlantic Ocean, and I desire, if the in lamies of which I have complained are only moral grievances, to see them swept away and law speedily enacted for the protection on the ocean of those who have cycle to cross the Atlantic to rear up the cities and consolidate the greatness of this mighty Republic. From letters which I have received I have every reason to believe that the treatment of steerage passengers not believe what the treatment of steerage passengers on the law of the protection on the ocean are with me, the millions who have crossed the even are with me, the millions who have crossed the coan are with me, the millions who have crossed the coan are with me, every emigrant is with me,

LEFFER PROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

J. P. M'DORNELL, Esq., 257 BOWER, New York:

Sir.—Your letter of the lith inst., addressed to the President of the United States on the subject of the treatment of steerage passengers on the Atlantic Ocean, has been referred by him to this Department.

In reply I have to say that the importance of the subject and the magnitude of the evils to be remedied are fully appreciated. They have engaged the serious consideration of the government in more than one of its Departments for some length of time. They have been and are now the subject of negotiation with one or more of the European Powers, from whose territories the largest name's of emigrants reach this country.

The subject involves questions of jurisdiction as well as of interest, which are not without grave difficulties; but

The subject involves questions of jurisdiction as well as of interest, which are not without grave difficulties; but it is earnestly hoped that a solution of those dificulties may be reached, and that the results which humanity and public interest alike demand may be attained by an agreement between the several Powers concerned.

No effort is wanting or is slumbering on the part of this government to reach the end which may ensure the comfort and safety of the passengers on the voyage, and their protection from imposition and wrong as well or the voyage as at its inception and termination. I am air, &c.,

HAMILTON FISH.

### THE CHICAGO CITY LOTS SWINDLE.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 20, 1873. The Tribune of this morning publishes a full expose of the swindle in so-called Chicago city lots, which appears to have already numbered its victims by thousands, and to be still adding to the number in the Eastern States. It appears from this account that one G. W. Scott purchased a quantity of swamp land, about twenty miles from the tity of swamp land, about twenty miles from the Court House, at \$9 per acre, and subdivided it into lots which have been sold at \$200 each to handreds of people in this city. The Tribuse publishes a list of over one thousand purchasers, besides many persons in other sections of the country. An examination of the plet of this subdivision, which was dubbed the Boulevard subdivision, shows that the lots ranged in size from filteen by thirty-five to nine by twenty feet, the streets averaged six feet in width and the alleys thirteen inches. Letters are being constantly received here from parties East inquiring as to the value of lots in this subdivision, which shows that some parties are offering them for sale throughout the country.

### DISCLOSURES IN BROOKLYN.

How Contractors Fleece the City. A case of some importance to the city of Brooklyn client had received a contract from the city to pave Sumpter street; that he had the work about half done when, in December, 1871, the Street Commissioner stopped him; that he afterwards received the last of four certificates from the Street Commissioner, which were also endorsed by the Mayor. Donlon, being unable to pay his debts, his material was seized and sold by the Sheriff. Then the Street commissioner notified him to go on, but his counsel notified him net to go en, saying that the city had violated its contract. The work was given to Peter Riley next, at \$5.70 a foot. Denlon was doing it for \$3.50, and would have completed it for \$18,948, while the city paid Riley, who is a pet contracter, \$30,859 for finishing the job, oge half of it having been dene. Donlon now sues the city for thirty per cent kept back—about four thousand dollars in all—and also for damages for the loss of his contract. Judge Trey offered to accept the thirty per cent and settle the case, and the Law Committee will probably so report in order to save the city further expense. pave Sumpter street; that he had the

### TAXPAYERS' MEETING.

The Citizens and Taxpayers' Association of th Twelfth ward held a regular meeting last night at their rooms, 122d street and Third avenue. None of the committees which were appointed at the las meeting were prepared to report further that

meeting were prepared to report factors "progress."

The Committee on Laws and Ordinances reported that they found that railroad companies were not obliged to pave the streets within their tracks, and consequently the 125th Street Railroad Company could not be compelled to do so unless by legislative action.

The association will meet again next flursday evening, on which occasion matters of importance will be discussed and passed upon.

### POLITICAL ARRESTS IN ALABAMA.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Peb. 20, 1873.

Speaker Parsons and Representative Williams (both colored) were arrested to-day by the United er, charging them with conspiring to prevent an election of a United States Senator on the second Tuesday after the organization of the Legisjature. The parties are all republicans. Mesers. Parsons and Williams were released on entering into beads to appear for trial on March 18, to which time Judge Bugiced adjourned the United States Court.

#### THE BOGY INVESTIGATION.

General Dorris Repeats His Fifteen Thousand-Dollar Thousand-Dollar Narrative to the Committee-Why He Considered He Had the Inside Track. St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 20, 1873. General Dorris was before the Senatorial Bribery

Committee at Jefferson City to-day. He testifie

dred dollars, and his son Tom about fifteen thouand dollars; tom's object was to give father's election; he gave an account of the amounts of money paid to Wilson and Edens (hereand Morgan, members of the House; when he arrived at the Capitol he found all the old and Morgan, members of the House; when he arrived at the Capitol he found all the old "stagers" in business, and he was obliged to take whom he could get; neither Wilson nor Edens had lived up to their pretensions; his offers to Pope and Morgan were made because he heard that Phelps' friends had \$10,000 which they proposed to spend, and on their retusal to accept his offers he concluded he had been deceived; his distursements in Jefferson City were about \$3,500, and he carried back to St. Louis thirteen of the fifteen \$1,000 drafts brought up by Tom; neither Kitchen nor Hicox, who were working for Bogy, got any money from witness; he denied any connection between his transactions and Bogy; he no more anticipated Mr. Bogy's election than he expected to be struck by lighthing; he favored breaking up the cancus, expecting that a centingency would arise when the election would come to a dead lock and a compromise man would be put up, and had hopes he would be that man is much the same way as Woodsir was neminated for Governor; \$15,000, which he proposed to spend, might be a large sum to some men, but not to him; he would not feel so small an amount; he thought he had the inside track as he had the most money; in regard to using influence to secure the support of the republican members, he said he would gladly have got them, and rather expected such support, for he had received a letter from Senator Logan, of Illinois, whom Dorris said he raised, expressing a hope that he (Dorris) would be successful as against other candidates who might be more severe and uncompromising against the republicans.

The remainder of the evidence was merely corroborative of the statements contained in his amidavit read in the Heuse some days ago.

PRESHET IN THE ALABAMI RIVER. MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 20, 1873. The rain still continues. The Alabama River is swellen to an immense extent, and fears are en-tertained that it will rise still higher.

Condition of the River at Selma. SELMA, Ala., Feb. 20, 1873. The Alabama River at this point is now two inches above that of the July flood, and continues to rise slowly.

HEAVY SNOW STORM AT OMAHA. CHICAGO, Ili., Feb. 20, 1873.

snow atorm at Omaha this morning, which ap peared to be coming East. The weather here is cloudy, with indications of a storm.

# Goods Valued at \$6,000 Recovered by

the Police. Captain Williams, of the Twenty-first precinct police, recovered two large boxes of silk velvets, Wednesday, valued at about four thousand dollars He discovered yesterday the property had been stolen from Messrs. Richard Richards & Co., of 456 Broadway, and he is now searching for the thieves The first intelligence of the locality of the goods was given to Captain Williams by an officer of

was given to Captain Williams by an officer on duty in Thirty-fourth street. This officer noticed some men about the place acting in a suspicious manner, and he immediately reported the circumstance. A watch was put upon them, and they were traced to aftempty store hear First avenue. To this house one of the men, Herman Goldstein, had two large empty boxes conveyed that he bought at 480 Third avenue. The boxes were carried into the shop and left there for a few days. Goldstein then hired the same truckman—a blundering proceeding for an old hand like him—and had the boxes, which were this time full, removed to a storage warehouse in Third avenue, near Forty-eighth street. While the property was being transferred Goldstein was alone, and the police were unable to arrive at the thieves. He was arrested, however, and locked up at the station house, in 111th street, between Third and Fourth avenues, and a quantity of ladies' silk dresses, velvet cloaks and umbrellas, valued at about \$2,000, were found. These things, Captain Williams thinks, are the proceeds of other robberies, and he is now looking for complainants against Goldstein, who is supposed to be a receiver.

ANOTHER CHECK PORGERY.

Altering \$22 to \$1,200-How the Chest was Frustrated.
William Hull, allas John Smith, was arraigned before Judge Dowling at the Tombs Police Court yesterday, charged with altering a check from \$22 to \$1,200. It is alleged that Hull went into the tobacco warehouse of Wilham Eggert, 138 Water street, and purchased a quantity of cigars, valued at \$38. In payment he presented a \$50 bill, telling Mr. Eggert that he would like to have a check, as he wished to send some money away. The following check was accordingly drawn:—

No. 211. New York, Feb. 19, 1873.

THE NASSAU BANK.

Pay to the order of William Hull twenty-two 00-100 WILLIAM EGGERT.

Mr. Eggert immediately after giving the check became suspicious, and informed the bank officers accordingly. The original was presented during the day by the aforesaid Hull, but it was altered to \$1,200. Hull was arrested and brought before Judge bowling at the Tombs Police Court yesterday. There the gentleman gave his name as John Smith. He was held under \$10,000 bail to answer.

### A TERRIFIC OIL EXPLOSION AT CORRY.

CORRY. Pa., Feb. 20, 1873. One of the stills in the Downer Kerosene Oil Company's refinery in this place burst this morn ing, about ten o'clock, blowing off the roof and one side of the building. The steam pipes were useless. The man who was tending the stills had just left the building, thus saving his life. The explosion shook buildings a mile distant. The fire was caused by the explosion of two agitators containing 5,000 gallons of heavy naphtha. The agitators were in too close proximity to the engine used to work the pumps. The fire has extended to the other two agitators in the same building, which is close to a large iron tank having about six thousand gallons of tar in it.

The fire will not extend beyond the building in which it is now confined.

### THE HERALD COMMISSIONER IN CUBA.

[From the Danbury News, Feb. 19.] The New York Herald has sent one Kelly to Cuba to look up affairs there. Kelly has received notice from the Spanish that he may be cut off. This naturally engrosses the attention of Mr. Kelly and he communicates with the HERALD about it. The HERALD immediately assures the Spanis government that if Mr. Kelly is deprived of his queta of air it will have to pay dearly for it. This restores Mr. Kelly to a state of serenity and he plunges anew into his researches, with the blessed assurance that if he is sent into eternity it will be money out of the pocket of the Spanish government. It is quite evident to a cultured mind that Kelly is no slouch.

#### TARTUFFE AND TERPSICHORE-A PARSON AT A BALL IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1873.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—
Several hundred guests assembled at Governor Cook's last evening to participate in one of the finest balls ever given in this district. A temporary ballroom was erected, which connected with the Governor's mansion by a passage. The dancing was kept up until beyond the midnight hour. Rev. Doctor J. P. Newman and lady were present, and although they did not actually join in the dance their presence and tacit approval of the festivities have set the old-time Methodists to taiking, and they seem to think the Rev. Doctor and his estimable wile have committed a grave offence against the usages and discipline of their Church. These people of antiquated ideas seem to forget that they live in an age of progress. Doctor Newman seems not to mind their gabble, but insists that if a man of his prominence and recognized ability would wield a salutary influence among the cities, he must not drive his coach in the old, and wern ruts of antiquated Methodism. The Doctor's free and easy action in regard to dance-going has created a stir in Methodist circles, but only with the antiquated.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., Treasurer of the New Doctor J. P. Newman and lady were present, and

Cornellus Vanderbilt, Jr., Treasurer of the New York and Harlem Railroad Company, yesterday received proposals for \$2,000,000 of the Conseild-ated Mortgage Bonds, due in 1900, but only the offers for \$1,000,000 were accepted, at from

# SCHUYLER COLFAX

A Resolution to Impeach Him Offered in the House of Representatives.

that he brought to Jefferson City about four hun-YEAS 105, NAYS 109.

> Narrow Escape of the Smiling Prevaricator.

A SCENE OF EXCITEMENT.

Passage of a Resolution General in Its Application-The Judiciary Committee Given Charge of the Matter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20, 1873. o-day when Fernando Wood rose and presented the resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to report articles of impeachment against Vice President Colfax, if, in its judgment, there is evidence warranting his impeachment. the busy hum prevailing in the House was pushed into unison with the grave import of the subject. The democrats looked stern, almost threatening, while the republicans appeared to be in a great that the resolution was to be offered. The friends of Colfax were evidently in a dilemma, from which escape was almost cut off by the judicial wording of Wood's resolution. Tyner, a member from Colfax's own district, objected, and upon motion of

THE CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION. The vote resulted in 105 in the affirmative to 109 in the negative. At one time there threatened to be a tie, for the democrats were in full force and all marshalled under the leadership of Pernando of Arkansas; Butler, of Massachusetts; Morphis, of Mississippi; Stevenson, of Ohio; Porter, of Virginia; Smith, of Vermont-and two liberals-Farnsworth, of Illinois, and Goodrich, of New York-voted for the resolution. All the rest of the repubthe members incolpated in the Crédit Mobilier business voted against the resolution, and a democrat remarked that it showed little delicacy on their part to vote at all on a subject in which they were themselves concerned. When the result was announced a sense of relief seemed to come ever many republicans, as if they had escaped from some

Before the announcement of the vote Hawley, of Connecticut, was seen in hurried consultation with Judge Poland; Elus H. Reberts and others joined in, and presently the massive head of

THE ESSEX STATESMAN was among the group, as though he had scented mischief from afar and wanted a hand in it. Butler. however, was evidently regarded as an interioper in the conclave and fought off. He left the group and Hawley scrawled something on a slip of paper. Wood's resolution. He handed the paper to Tyner, who looked at it, turned it over and over hesitatingly, and appeared greatly embarrassed, as though he had an elephant on his hands. Hawley gesticulatingly prevailed upon him to present it. Immediately after the announcement of the result of the vote on Wood's resolution Tyner enacted the part assigned to him. He offered a resolution, which took the sting out of that pre-sented by Wood, by omitting the name of Colfax of the Judiciary to "any officer of the government" implicated in the Credit Mobilier business. It is

NOTHING CAN COME OF THE RESOLUTION: for even if that committee drew up articles of im-peachment against Colfax there would be no time left for the House to act upon the matter. Considering the fact, however, that Bingham, one of the implicated members, is chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, there is no probability of Colfax being impeached. Viewed in the light of a matter of record, Fernando Wood's resolution has, however, accomplished the object for which it

### THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20, 1873.

privilege, offered the following resolution :privilege, offered the following resolution:—
Resolved, That the testimony reported to the House by
the select committee appointed under the resolution of
the 2d of December, 1872, for the investigation of charges
of bribery in influencing members of the House of Representatives be referred to the Judiciary Committee with
instructions to report articles of impeachment against
Schuyler Colfax, Vice President of the United States, if in
its judgment there is evidence implicating that officer and
warranting impeachment.

The resolution having been read, Mr. SARGENT of California,

MOVED TO LAY IT ON THE TABLE. Mr. RANDALL, (dem.) of Pa., called for the yeas and navs.

Mr. TYNER, (rep.) of Ind., raised the question or consideration. The SPEAKER, in reply to various inquiries

stated that under the forty-first rule a member had a right to have the question submitted to the House when any proposition or motion is made whether it will be now considered. That question had been raised, and it was for the House to say whether the impeachment resolution would now be considered. be considered.

The question was taken, and it was decided in the negative.

The question was taken, and it was decided in the negative.

YEAS, 105; NAYS, 109.

So the House refused to consider the resolution. The democrats all voted for the resolution and the republicans against it, except Messrs. Beatty, of Ohio; Butler, of Massachusetts; Farnsworth, of Il-linois; Porter, of Virginia; Stevenson, of Ohio, and Smith of Vermont—6.

TAKING THE VOTE.

There was a great deal of excitement as the vote progressed, and groups of members gathered around Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, whose vote against considering the resolution seemed to disappoint members on the democratic side. His explanation was that Mr. Colfax had testified yesterday, and that he had not heard or read that testimony, and could not, therefore, vote for the resolution.

ANOTHER RESOLUTION ADOPTED. Mr. Tyner, of Indiana, then offered a resolution, which was adopted, referring the testimony taken before the Poland Committee to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to inquire whether asything in such testimony warrants articles of impeachment of any officer of the United States not a member of the House, or make it proper that further investigation should be ordered in his case.

### SUMPER'S FLAC RESOLUTION.

A Petition in the Bay State Legislature Asking that the Vote of Censure Passed Recently on Mr. Sumner Be Re-

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 20, 1873. In the House of Representatives a petition was presented to-day from Messrs. John G. Whittier. James T. Fields and some thirty other prominent

James T. Fields and some thirty other prominent citizens, as follows:—

Whereas at a late extra session of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, called for the sole and exclusive purpose of aleviating a great calamity, a resolution virtually censuring one of the representatives of the State in the Senate of the Union was offered and adopted; therefore we, the undersigned citizens of Massachusetts, with a Jealeus regard to the honor and good name of the State and with a proud and grateful appreciation of the character and public services of Mr. Charles Sumner, respectfully but earnestly ask your honorable bodies to rescind the lessibilities on the 18th day of December, 1872.

This is the resolution which was nessed by the

sets on the 18th day of December, 1872.

This is the resolution which was passed by the last Legislature on the occasion of a proposition being made by Mr. Summer to remove the names of the battles of the Rebellion from the regimental flags of the United States Army.

A motion was made to refer the petition to the Committee on Federal Relations, with instructions to hear the petitioners, which gave rise to a warm debate, and the motion was finally amended so as to have the remonstrants also heard, when it was agreed to.

MURPHY GIVES BOND THE LIE.

LEAVENWORTH, Kansas, Feb. 20, 1873. The Hon. John C. Murphy, of this city, ex. nember of the Legislature, says the statement of C. H. Bond before the Pomercy Investigating Com-mittee at Washington is faise. He says he neve